

REMARKS

The specification and claims have been amended as suggested in the office action.

Claim 7 has been rewritten in dependent form.

The amended claim has been amended to state "from 5 to 150 phr, based on 100 parts by weight of (a), of *a polymer of an olefin having from 2 to 4 carbon atoms*" to avoid any confusion – this polymer refers to polymers of ethylene, propylene and butene and does not refer to the midblock of the hydrogenated block copolymer.

The amendment to state "*(a) and (b)* having blended therein from ~~30 to 100~~ 20 to 180 phr of a liquid polyisobutene oil plasticizer, based on 100 parts by weight of *(a) and (b)*," has been made to make clear that the stated amount is based on all the TPE.

The limitation "30 to 100 phr of a polybutene", referring to the amount of plasticizer oil, has been amended to state 20 to 180 phr of a liquid polyisobutene oil plasticizer" because basis is provided in the specification under Summary of the Invention, page 10, line 21 - 24, where it states "To make a desirable elastomeric product a starting TPE is melt-blended with from about *20 to 180 phr fluidizable polybutene* (parts per 100 parts of TPE only) having sufficiently low Mn to be fluid during melt-blending of the TPE. "

The limitation of 20 to 180 phr was originally also provided in dependent claim 6 and in original claim 22.

Note that, in the illustrative examples in Table 2, one of the examples uses 170 phr of plasticizer oil (see last column).

The dependency of claims 2, 4 and 6 has been amended to state they depend from claim 7.

Claim 6 has been amended to narrow the originally stated range of "from 10 to 180 phr" (now stated in the independent claim 7) to "30 to 150 phr" originally stated in original claim 16 where it had stated: "*a liquid polyisobutene oil plasticizer* having a number average molecular weight ("Mn") in the range from 200 to 6000, fluidizable under melt-blending

conditions of (a) and (b), *present in an amount in the range from about 30 to 150 phr, per 100 parts of (a) or (b),*"

The other claims have been amended so as to be consistent with the foregoing amendments.

Respectfully submitted,


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